

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 SS-15 L-02 H-02 ABF-01 AGR-05

IGA-01 AID-05 CIAE-00 INR-07 JUSE-00 NSAE-00 SNM-02

SY-05 TRSE-00 USIA-06 NSC-05 OES-03 OMB-01 PA-01

PRS-01 /083 W

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R 241804Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7411

INFO DIA WASHDC

DEA HQS WASHDC

US CUSTOMS WASHDC

USMISSION GENEVA

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 MEXICO 3568

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, MX

SUBJ: MISSION MONTHLY NARCOTICS REVIEW FOR FEBRUARY 1975

REF: A) MEXICO 1693; B) MEXICO 1729; C) MEXICO A-63; D) MEXICO A-62;

E) GENEVA 1272 (NOTAL); F) GENEVA 1374; G) MEXICO 1825;

H) MEXICO 1386; I) MEXICO 1689; J) MEXICO 1905

DIA FOR AH-7

DEA - EOI FOR CUSACK

CUSTOMS FOR CMSR. ACREE

SUMMARY: FEBRUARY SAW THE FULL-SCALE START OF THE SPRING
ERADICATION CAMPAIGN, INAUGURATED OFFICIALLY BY THE
ATTORNEY GENERAL AND REPORTED WEEKLY BY CABLED PROGRESS
REPORTS. THE AMBASSADOR HELD A HIGHLY SUBSTANTIVE
BREAKFAST FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL. AGREEMENTS ON
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INTERDICTION VEHICLES AND TO INCREASE THE COST CEILING

OF THE MAINTENANCE AND SUPPLY CONTRACT WERE EFFECTED. THE GOM ANNOUNCED THE AG AS CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT OF NEXT YEAR'S COMMISSION ON NARCOTICS DRUGS. A DEA AGENT WAS SERIOUSLY WOUNDED IN A CUIDAD JUAREZ SNAFU. PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA (BELATEDLY) FORMALLY ESTABLISHED THE MEXICAN CENTER FOR DRUG DEPENDENCY RESEARCH. A CONGRESS ON ADOLESCENCE PRODUCED A RASH OF PUBLIC STATEMENTS AND PRESS ACCOUNTS, AND MEETINGS CONCERNING DRUG ABUSE IN MEXICO. COCAINE SEIZURES WERE WAY UP, LARGELY DUE TO A 15 KG HAUL IN MEXICO CITY. HERION WAS ALSO IMPRESSIVE, BUT RAW OPIUM WAS DOWN FROM ITS EXTRAORDINARY JANUARY HIGH. END SUMMARY.

1. EMBASSY AND GOM ACTIVITIES

A. AMBASSADOR JOVA AND OTHER EMBASSY AND DEA OFFICIALS HAD A BREAKFAST MEETING WITH THE MEXICAN ATTORNEY GENERAL AND HIS DEPUTY ON FEBRUARY 20. THIS IS REPORTED IN MEXICO 1693 AND RELATED MEMCONS.

B. AGREEMENTS TO PROVIDE INTERDICTION VEHICLES TO THE GOM AND TO RAISE THE COST CEILING ON THE MAINTENANCE AND SUPPLY CONTRACT WERE EFFECTED ON FEBRUARY 26. SEE MEXICO 1729, A-63 AND A-62.

C. AN EMBARRASSING SITUATION WAS CREATED BY MEX DEL TO THE CND MEETING IN GENEVA ANNOUNCING THAT THE GOM WAS PROPOSING MEXICAN ATTORNEY GENERAL OJEDA PAULLADA AS NEXT YEAR'S CND PRESIDENT. THIS MOVE, CONTRARY TO TRADITIONAL CND PROCEDURE, PLACED US IN THE UNCOMFORTABLE DILEMMA EITHER OF OPPOSING THE CND "ESTABLISHMENT" IN SUPPORT OF THE AG'S CANDIDACY, OR OF OFFENDING THE AG BY APPEARING AT THE VERY LEAST UNENTHUSIASTIC. DESPITE A NEGATIVE REACTION FROM OTHER MEMBERS, GOM HAS NOT WITHDRAWN CANDIDACY. (SEE GENEVA 1272 (NOTAL), GENEVA 1374 AND MEXICO CONFIDENTIAL

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1825.)

D. SPURRED BY THE AG'S FORMAL INAUGURATION ON FEBRUARY 21, THE 1975 INTENSIFIED CAMPAIGN IN THE NORTHWEST GOT DOWN TO BUSINESS IN FEBRUARY, AND WE BEGAN SENDING TELEGRAPHIC SUMMARIES OF DEA'S WEEKLY PROGRESS REPORTS. FOR THE CAMPAIGN'S PROBLEMS, PROGRESS AND

PROMISE, SEE MEXICO 1386, 1689 AND 1905.

E. IN A MID-FEBRUARY JOINT OPERATING BY DEA AND MFJP IN CIUDAD JUAREZ, AN UNFORTUNATE CONFUSION LED TO THE SERIOUS WOUNDING OF A DEA AGENT BY A DEPUTY MEXICAN POLICE OFFICER. ALTHOUGH THE DEA WAS NOT FROM REGION 15 (MEXICO), THE INCIDENT NONETHELESS UNDERLINES THE RISKS INVOLVED AND THE NEED FOR METICULOUS PLANNING IN ALL JOINT OPERATIONS.

F. ON FEBRUARY 4 PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA ISSUED A DECREE FORMALLY ESTABLISHING THE MEXICAN CENTER FOR DRUG DEPENDENCY RESEARCH (CEMEF). THE MEASURE WAS DISTINCTLY ANTICLIMATIC, SINCE CEMEF HAS ALREADY BEEN IN EXISTENCE FOR FOUR YEARS.

G. IN EARLY FEBRUARY THE THIRD REUNION OF THE PANAMERICAN FORUM OF THE STUDY ON ADOLESCENCE WAS HELD IN MEXICO CITY. AN IMPORTANT PART OF THE CONFERENCES WAS DEVOTED TO DRUG ABUSE AND INTER ALIA PRODUCED THE DRAMATIC STATEMENT BY A MEXICAN PHYSICIAN THAT 40 PERCENT OF MEXICAN CHILDREN ARE "DRUG ADDICTS" (I.E., INHALANTS, ALCOHOL, MARIJUANA, ETC.).

H. THE AFORMENTIONED REUNION SPURRED A FLURRY OF STATEMENTS CONCERNING THE DRUG PROBLEM IN DIFFERENT AREAS OF MEXICO CITY AND ENVIRONS:
(1) SOME 25,000 INTERVIEWS WERE CONDUCTED IN GUSTAVO MADERO DISTRICT, LEADING TO THE SCREENING OUT OF 400 CASES OF ADDICTION, OF WHICH 85 CASES WERE REFERRED TO HOSPITALS FOR SPECIALIZED
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TREATMENT; (2) THE VARIOUS DISTRICT COMMITTEES OF THE RULING PRI PARTY HELD A CYCLE OF CONFERENCES ON DRUG DEPENDENCY; (3) TEPITO DISTRICT HELD A DRUG ADDICTION CONFERENCE, UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF CEMEF; (4) THE DRUG PROBLEM, PARTICULARLY IN RELATION TO "UPPERS" AND OTHER STIMULANTS, WAS HELD TO BE CAUSING GREAT CONCERN AMONG TEACHERS AND PARENTS IN CUIDAD NEZAHUALCOYOTL; AND (5) THE DIRECTOR OF MENTAL HEALTH IN THE SECRETARIAT OF HEALTH SAID THAT DRUG ABUSE WAS NOT SO MUCH A PROBLEM OF STUDENTS PER SE, BUT WAS MOST PREVALENT AMONG YOUNG PEOPLE SUFFERING POVERTY, POOR FAMILY ENVIRONMENT AND OTHER SOCIAL ILLS.

I) THE PRESS GAVE GOOD PLAY TO THE ATTORNEY

GENERAL INAUGURATING THE 1975 INTENSIFIED
CAMPAIGN IN CULIACAN (SEE D, ABOVE), AND NOTED
HIS DETERMINATION TO SEND ADDITIONAL HELICOPTERS
TO THE TRI-STATE AREA TO REINFORCE THOSE ALREADY
WORKING IN THE CAMPAIGN.

2. GOM ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES

A. WITH U.S. AUTHORITIES

1,000,000 AMPHETAMINE CAPSULES SEIZED IN
MONTERREY; 4 ARRESTS.
15 KG. COCAINE TAKEN IN MEXICO CITY; 4
ARRESTS (TWO PUERTO RICANS).

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INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 SS-15 L-02 H-02 ABF-01 AGR-05

IGA-01 AID-05 CIAE-00 INR-07 JUSE-00 NSAE-00 SNM-02

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QEI GM HEROIN SEIZED IN TIJUANA; ONE ARREST.
615 GM HEROIN SEIZED IN TIJUANA; ONE ARREST.
HEROIN LAB SEIZED IN SAN JOSE DEL BARRANCO,
SINALOA, AFTER FIREFIGHT IN WHICH THREE
TRAFFICKERS KILLED. CONFISCATED 1 KG.

HEROIN, 1/2 KG. PARTIALLY PROCESSED OPIUM,
1/2 KG. POPPY SEEDS AND 4 KG. RAW OPIUM.
6 PERSONS ARRESTED.
IN CASE INVOLVING SHOOTING REPORTED IN
PARA 1(E) ABOVE, ONE KG. HEROIN SEIZED AND
FOUR DEPENDENTS ARRESTED.
5 TONS MARIJUANA TAKEN FROM TRUCK NEAR
ACAPULCO; DRIVER ARRESTED.
3 KG. HEROIN, 2 KG. COCAINE SEIZED IN
TIJUANA; 9 ARRESTS. THIS WAS PART OF AN
OPERATION ON BOTH SIDES OF THE FRONTIER,
WHICH NETTED 10 KG. COCAINE AND 15 KG.
HEROIN. THE LEADER OF THE RING, RAUL
AISPURIO LEON, IS SUSPECTED OF
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INTRODUCING 40 PERCENT OF THE HEROIN
CONSUMED IN LOS ANGELES.
1 KG. HEROIN TAKEN IN TIJUANA; TWO ARRESTS
10.9 KG. HEROIN TAKEN FROM SECRET
COMPARTMENT IN AUTOMOBILE IN MEXICALI; 2
ARRESTS.

B. INDEPENDENT MEXICAN OPERATIONS

3. U.S. CITIZEN VIOLATORS CAPTURED AFTER
A SHOOTOUT IN BAJA CALIFORNIA.
3.4 TONS MARIJUANA SEIZED IN MICHOACAN;
ONE ARREST.
16 KG. OPIUM, 1.5 KG. HEROIN SEIZED IN
GUADALAJARA; 9 ARRESTS.
1. TON MARIJUANA TAKEN IN HERMOSILLO; 2
ARRESTED.
8.5 KG. OPIUM SEIZED IN GUADALAJARA; 1.4
KG. HEROIN TAKEN IN TIJUANA; AND .5 KG.
COCAINE SEIZED IN DURANGO. 13 ARRESTS.
800 GM. HEROIN TAKEN IN TECATE, BAJA
CALIFORNIA; 6 ARRESTED.
1.035 KG. HEROIN SEIZED IN TIJUANA; ONE
ARREST.
800 KG. MARIJUANA TAKEN BETWEEN MAZATLAN
AND CULIACAN; ONE ARREST.
1 TON MARIJUANA SEIZED NORTH OF HERMOSILLO;
TWO ARRESTS.
1 TON MARIJUANA TAKEN IN DURANGO.
2 TONS MARIJUANA SEIZED IN REYNOSA; 2 ARRESTS.
1 TON MARIJUANA SEIZED IN GUADALAJARA; 5
ARRESTED.
1/2 KG. HEROIN SEIZED IN TIJUANA; 1 ARREST.
353 KG. MARIJUANA TAKEN IN GUADALAJARA; 8

AMERICANS, 1 MEXICAN ARRESTED.
1 TONE MARIJUANA SEIZED IN HERMOSILLO.
510,000 BARBITURATE CAPSULES TAKEN IN
MEXICALI AIRPORT.
1/2 KG. HEROIN SEIZED IN CIUDAD JUAREZ;
ONE ARREST.
1 KG. OPIUM POPPY SEED SEIZED IN SINALOA;
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ONE ARREST.
7 TONS MARIJUANA TAKEN FROM TRAIN AT EMPLAME,
SONORA.
6 TONS MARIJUANA SEIZED NEAR GUADALAJARA;
TRUCK DRIVER ARRESTED.
800 GM. COCAINE TAKEN AT MEXICO CITY AIRPORT;
AMCIT ARRESTED.
1.5 KG. HEROIN SEIZED NEAR GUADALAJARA; 2
ARRESTS.

C. MONTHLY WRAPUP (OFFICIAL GOM)

OPIUM

FIELDS DESTROYED	2,224
AREA IN SQUARE METERS	9,632,271 M 2
OPIUM GUM	26.8 KG.
SEEDS	12.8 KG.
HEROIN	24.25 KG.
COCAINE	25.36 KG.
DANGEROUS DRUGS	1,000,000 AMPHETAMINE
	535,000 BARBITURATES

MARIJUANA	
FIELDS DESTROYED	1,127
AREA IN SQUARE METERS	2,571,741 M 2
MARIJUANA (DRY) SEIZED	64.5 TONS
SEED	141.7 KG.
HASHISH	-----

AIRCRAFT SEIZED	5
AUTOMOBILES AND TRUCKS	67

ARRESTS	
FOREIGNERS (MOSTLY US)	55
MEXICAN NATIONALS	263

(NOTE: OFFICIAL GOM STATISTICS FOR SEIZURES DURING
FEBRUARY ACCORD WELL WITH THE EMBASSY'S UNOFFICIAL

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COMPILATION OF DEA REPORTS AND PRESS ACCOUNTS.) MOVA

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 APR 1975
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
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Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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From: MEXICO
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Subject: MISSION MONTHLY NARCOTICS REVIEW FOR FEBRUARY 1975
TAGS: SNAR, MX
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Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006